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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Forty-first session
Second part
Geneva, 20 March 1995
Item 1(a) of the provisional agenda

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE SESSION**

# Provisional agenda and annotations for the second part of the forty-first session of the Board

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

The secretariat's annotations are intended to furnish essential background information covering the provisional agenda items, together with a brief description of the relevant documentation (section II). Section III gives the current membership of the Bureau of the Board.

A checklist of documents relating to all agenda items will be issued at the beginning of the session.

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## I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Procedural matters:

   (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session;

   (b) Adoption of the report on credentials;

   (c) Provisional agenda for the first part of the forty-second session of the Board;

   (d) Provisional agenda for the pre-sessional executive session of the Board in September 1995

2. Trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform:

   Developments relating to structural adjustment policies in developed countries, and their implications

3. Sustainable development:

   Policy review of UNCTAD's activities on sustainable development

4. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s:

   (a) Status of preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

   (b) Annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action

5. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s:

   (a) Sustainable development, population, human resources and environment;

   (b) Progress report by the UNCTAD secretariat and evaluation of UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the New Agenda

6. Other matters in the field of trade and development

   (a) Report of the Joint Advisory Group of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT on its twenty-seventh session

7. Preparations for the ninth session of the Conference

8. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

   (a) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board;

   (b) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board;

   (c) Review of the calendar of meetings;

   (d) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

9. Other business

10. Adoption of the report of the Board.

## II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 Procedural matters

The rules of procedure of the Board are contained in TD/B/16/Rev.4 and Corr.1.

(a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

Agenda

The provisional agenda for the session, as approved by the Board at the first part of its forty-first session, is reproduced in section I above.

Documentation

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| TD/B/41(2)/1 | Provisional agenda and annotations |
| TD/B/41(2)/1/Add.1 | Addendum |

Organization of the work for the session

The organization of work for the session will be circulated to the Board.

Documentation

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| TD/B/41(2)/1/Add.2 | Organization of work for the session |

(b) Adoption of the report on credentials

"The Bureau of the Board shall examine the credentials and submit their report to the Board." (Rule 17.2 of the rules of procedure of the Board.)

In-session documentation

(c) Provisional agenda for the first part of the forty-second session of the Board

In accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD will submit during the session a draft provisional agenda for the first part of the forty-second session of the Board.

In-session documentation

(d) Provisional agenda for the pre-sessional executive session of the Board in September 1995

The Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD will also submit a draft provisional agenda for the pre-sessional executive session.

In-session documentation

Item 2 Trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform: developments relating to structural adjustment policies in developed countries, and their implications

In paragraph 66 of the Cartagena Commitment, the Conference calls for the Board to address at one part of its annual sessions a topic relating to trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform.

At the first part of its thirty-ninth session the Board considered issues relating to national transparent mechanisms in the context of the fight against protectionism. A specific topic on trade policies (Trade policy reforms in developing countries and the international support required) was considered at the second part of the thirty-ninth session. At the second part of the fortieth session, a topic related to economic reform (Increased participation in international goods and services by developing countries and economies in transition: some problems and opportunities) was addressed. At the second part of its forty first session, the Board will turn its attention to structural adjustment, by considering developments relating to structural adjustment policies in developed countries, and their implications.

To assist the Board, the secretariat has prepared a report which assesses major features of structural adjustment policies of developed countries against the backdrop of a world economic setting which is characterized by the gradual opening of frontiers to free trade, growing economic integration across national borders, rapid technological changes and equally fast changes in the skill requirements of the workforce.

Chapter I highlights new adjustment pressures and structural adjustment policies of developed countries in the industrial and agricultural sectors. Chapter II examines some major features of market implications for developing countries and economies in transition. Chapter III addresses policies of "adjustment beyond national boundaries" and their implications, focusing in particular on support for global enterprises' relocation strategies. Chapter IV examines the need for further policy analysis.

Documentation

TD/B/41(2)/8 Developments relating to structural adjustment policies in developed countries, and their implications
Report by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 3 Sustainable development: policy review of UNCTAD's activities on sustainable development

It will be recalled that issues relating to sustainable development were inscribed in the work programmes of a number of the Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Working Groups established following the eighth session of the Conference, dealing with commodities, technology, services, poverty and privatization. In addition, by its decision 402 (XXXIX), the Board agreed to consider the theme of "trade and environment" at the first part of its annual sessions. Subsequently, in its decision 415(XL), the Board established, and adopted terms of reference for, an Ad Hoc Working Group on Trade, Environment and Development. Finally, following the transfer to UNCTAD of the former Centre on Transnational Corporations, the work of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting Reporting (ISAR), which reports to the Commission on Transnational Corporations, is being integrated into UNCTAD's intergovernmental work programme.

At the first part of its forty-first session, the Trade and Development Board decided to inscribe an item entitled "Sustainable development: policy review of UNCTAD's activities on sustainable development" on the agenda of the session's second part. The report before the Board has been prepared to assist the members of the Board to undertake the desired policy review.

The report reviews the main issues which have been covered by the Board and its subsidiary bodies in each of the sectors listed above, together with conclusions on a cross-cutting theme, internalization. It attempts to identify those issues which seem to be especially important for future work by the Board and its subsidiary bodies in the field of sustainable development. Conclusions and recommendations drawn from this review are presented in the final section of the report.

Documentation

TD/B/41(2)/10 Policy review of UNCTAD's activities on sustainable development
Report by UNCTAD secretariat

Item 4 Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s:

(a) Status of preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

In its resolution 48/171, of 21 December 1993, the General Assembly decided to convene, in 1995, a High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to conduct, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action and Assembly resolution 45/206, a Mid-term Global Review of the implementation of the Programme of Action. In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Trade and Development Board to consider, at its Spring session in 1994, the elaboration of the preparatory activities for the Mid-term Global Review Meeting, including intergovernmental, expert, sectoral and inter-agency preparatory meetings and the substantive documentation.

Having responded to the above at the second part of its fortieth session the Board, in its decision 412(XL), of 29 April 1994, inter alia made a series of recommendations to the General Assembly concerning the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting; and requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to submit to the Board, at the second part of its forty-first session, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the decision.

The secretariat's oral report will reflect the action taken by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the recommendations submitted to it by the Trade and Development Board.

(b) Annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action

At the second part of its fortieth session the Board, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/206, of 21 December 1990, conducted its fourth annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action, including an informal exchange of views on country-level experience with the implementation of the Programme of Action, with the participation of Ministers and high-ranking officials and experts from the least developed countries and their development partners. The Board's discussions encompassed recent growth performance, human capacity building, adjustment and reforms, ODA and debt, and external trade. The outcome is reflected in agreed conclusions 413(XL), of 29 April 1994. The Board noted, inter alia, that the LDCs Annual Report is the only report of the United Nations system which focuses exclusively on the development problematique of the LDCs and that it is of particular value to the Governments of these countries and their development partners. The Board also emphasized the focal role of UNCTAD with regard to issues pertaining to LDCs.

The fifth annual review of the implementation of the Programme of Action will be held at the second part of the forty-first session. In accordance with paragraph 66 of the Cartagena Commitment, the Least Developed Countries 1995 Report will be made available.

Attention is drawn to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 49/98 of 19 December 1994, whereby the Assembly, having taken note of the relevant financial implications, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee for Development Planning to add Angola and Eritrea to the list of the least developed countries and to graduate Botswana from the list with immediate effect.

Documentation

TD/B/41(2)/4 The Least Developed Countries 1995 Report
UNCTAD/LDC/(1995)

Item 5 UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

By its resolution 46/151, of 18 December 1991, the General Assembly adopted the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. Under the provisions of that resolution, the Economic and Social Council will, in 1995, devote part of its high-level segment to the consideration of the implementation of the New Agenda.

(a) Sustainable development, population, human resources and environment

In considering UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the New Agenda, the Board, at its 816th plenary meeting on 14 October 1992, adopted a decision requesting the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to undertake Africa-specific studies, analyses and reports on specific issue areas, and requested that, for the Spring session in 1995, a report be submitted on issues relating to sustainable development, population, human resources and environment.

The report prepared by the secretariat is divided into three chapters. Chapter I, on population and sustainable development, discusses population issues in the African context, particularly the impact of population growth on development and on selected key sectors (food and agriculture, education, health, employment and poverty alleviation), and proposes future action, taking into account the results of the International Conference on Population and Development. Chapter II looks at the causes of environmental degradation in Africa and the international responses in given areas, and considers them in the context of the relevance and implications for UNCTAD's contribution to the New Agenda. Chapter III considers human resources development in the light of education and development over the last three decades; the factors constraining human resources development and utilization in Africa; and major areas of human resources requirements. The relevance and implications for UNCTAD's work in the area of human resources development are taken into account.

Documentation

TD/B/41(2)/6 UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s: sustainable development, population, human resources and environment Report by the UNCTAD secretariat

(b) Progress report by the UNCTAD secretariat and evaluation of UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the New Agenda

Also by its decision of 14 October 1992, the Board called for regular progress reports on UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the New Agenda to be submitted to its Spring sessions, and called for the Board to evaluate UNCTAD's contribution every two years, taking into account the follow-up and monitoring mechanisms and timetable set up by the General Assembly. In its Agreed Conclusions 414(XL), of 29 April 1994, the Board requested the secretariat to prepare and present to the second part of the forty-first session an evaluation of UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the New Agenda.

In accordance with the above mandates, the secretariat will submit a document combining the regular progress report and the evaluation called for. Both the progress report and the evaluation will cover specific areas identified by the Board for the secretariat to intensify its work on Africa or add new activities or orientations, i.e. the areas of policy research, analysis, deliberation and promotion of consensus in those areas of UNCTAD's mandate which have particular relevance to the implementation of the New Agenda; and technical cooperation activities to underpin measures directed at helping African countries fulfil their commitments under the New Agenda. A list of UNCTAD's technical cooperation projects in Africa will be appended.

The Board may wish to consider transmitting the document to the Economic and Social Council as an input to the discussions under this topic at the Council's high-level segment in 1995.

Documentation

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| TD/B/41(2)/9 | Progress report by the UNCTAD secretariat and evaluation of UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s |

Item 6 Other matters in the field of trade and development

(a) Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT on its twenty-seventh session

The Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT held its twenty-seventh session from 21 to 25 November 1994, during which it marked the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of ITC.

Particular attention is drawn to paragraphs 26-38 of the report on the session, reflecting the outcome of discussions on "ITC at the crossroads: an agenda for the future". Attention is also drawn to paragraphs 57-63, concerning the proposal for setting up a global trust fund and a consultative committee - the question of which is to be pursued at the twenty-eighth session of the Joint Advisory Group. During the session, the Group also reviewed the Centre's technical cooperation activities in 1993 (see paragraphs 39-56); and considered, and expressed support for, an ITC programme for 1992-1997 for the integration of women in trade development (see paragraphs 64-66).

Paragraph 68 of the report reflects the announcement of trust fund contributions to ITC.

Documentation

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| TD/B/41(2)/12 | Note by the UNCTAD secretariat |
| ITC/AG(XXVII)/145 and Add.1 | Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT on its twenty-seventh session |

Item 7 Preparations for the ninth session of the Conference

At the seventh pre-sessional executive session of the Trade and Development Board on 15 September 1994 the Board began preliminary consideration of the question of arrangements and preparations for the ninth session of the Conference. To assist the Board in initiating preliminary discussions on this item, the secretariat had prepared a brief note containing background information and suggestions for action which the Board might wish to take at that stage (TD/B/EX/CRP.1).

The attention of the Board was drawn to the proposed timing of the Conference in the second quarter of 1996 and for the need to initiate a timely preparatory process for UNCTAD IX.

The Board mandated the Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD to initiate informal, open-ended consultations on the provisional agenda for the Conference and related matters. The results of the consultations of the Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD will be before the Board.

Documentation

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| TD/B/41(2)/CRP.1 | Provisional agenda and arrangements for the ninth session of the Conference<br>Note by UNCTAD secretariat |

Item 8 Institutional, organizational, administrative\ and related matters

(a) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board

A list of the 102 intergovernmental organizations in status with UNCTAD is contained in TD/B/IGO/LIST/1 and Corr.1. At the second part of its forty-first session, the Board will be invited to consider applications from the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) and the Arab Labour Organization. An annotation concerning any further applications will be contained in an addendum to the present document.

Documentation

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| TD/B/IGO/LIST/1 & Corr.1 | List of IGOs in status with UNCTAD |
| TD/B/41(2)/R.1 | Application by the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)<br>Note by the UNCTAD secretariat |
| TD/B/41(2)/R.3 | Application by the Arab Labour Organization<br>Note by the UNCTAD secretariat |

Deletion from the list of IGOs in status with UNCTAD

In a communication dated 10 November 1994, the International Bauxite Association (IBA), an intergovernmental organization granted status at the fourth session of the Conference, informed the secretariat that, as of 31 December 1994, it would be dissolved. The IBA has therefore been deleted from the list of IGOs in status with UNCTAD.

New working name of an IGO

In a communication dated 15 November 1994, the Secretary-General of the Customs Co-operation Council, an intergovernmental organization which was granted status with UNCTAD at its third session, informed the UNCTAD secretariat that, as of 3 October 1994, the working name of the organization would be the World Customs Organization (WCO) but that Customs Co-operation Council would remain the official name of the organization.

(b) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

At present there are 162 NGOs in status with UNCTAD - 76 in the General Category and 86 in the Special Category. A list of these is contained in TD/B/INF.107/Rev.6 and Add.1-3. (This document will be up-dated after this session of the Board and will appear under code TD/B/NGO/LIST/1).

The Board will be invited to consider an application from the International Social Science Council (ISSC). In accordance with the provisions of rule 77, the Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD will consult the Bureau and subsequently submit its recommendations to the Board.

An annotation concerning any further applications received will be contained in an addendum to the present document.

Documentation

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| TD/B/INF.107/Rev.6 & Add.1-3 | NGOs in status with UNCTAD |
| TD/B/41(2)/R.2 | Application by the International Social Science Council (ISSC) Note by the UNCTAD secretariat |

Proposed reclassification of NGOs already in status with UNCTAD

Following the changes in UNCTAD's intergovernmental machinery, decided upon at the resumed second part of the fortieth session of the Board in May 1994, a reclassification of certain NGOs in the Special Category was called for to bring their classification into line with the new Ad Hoc Working Groups.

On 15 August 1994 the Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD addressed a communication to all NGOs in status with UNCTAD, informing them of the changes which had taken place in the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD, and transmitting the terms of reference of the new Ad Hoc Working Groups.

On 9 December 1994, NGOs in the Special Category were informed of the secretariat's provisional reclassification for them and confirmation of their agreement to this reclassification was requested. The Board will be informed of the responses received from these NGOs. Replies were requested by 15 February 1995.

(c) Review of the calendar of meetings

The Board will have before it a revised calendar of meetings for the remainder of 1995, as approved by the consultations of the Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD, together with a note on any further adjustments recommended by the Calendar Group.

A draft indicative calendar for 1996 will be annexed for planning purposes.

Documentation

TD/B/41(2)/L.1 Review of the calendar of meetings

(d) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

The Board will be informed during the session of the administrative and financial implications of any proposals before it.

In-session documentation, if required

Item 9 Other business

Item 10 Adoption of the report of the Board

In accordance with Board decision 259(XXV), two versions of the report of the Board are prepared: (a) the report of the Board to the General Assembly containing the resolutions and decisions of the Board and any other material which the Board decides to transmit to the Assembly: and (b) the full account of the Board proceedings, which constitutes the official record of the Board's session.

In conformity with established procedure, the report on the second part of the forty-first session of the Board will be submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

## III. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OF THE BUREAU OF THE BOARD

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|---|---|
| President: | Mr. Richard A. Pierce (Jamaica) |
| Vice-Presidents: | Mr. Youri Afanassiev (Russian Federation)<br>Mr. Phabien Raphaël Edafe (Madagascar)<br>Mr. Rüdiger Lemp (Germany)<br>Mr. Shohei Naito (Japan)<br>Mr. Jose Luis Perez Gabilondo (Argentina)<br>Mr. Stephen A. Schlaikjer (United States of America)<br>Mr. Adian Silalahi (Indonesia)<br>Mr. Björn Skogmo (Norway)<br>Mr. Jamaluddin Syed (Bangladesh)<br>H.E. Mr. Zdenek Venera (Czech Republic) |
| Rapporteur: | Mr. Calson Mbegabolawe (Zimbabwe) |

Sessional Committee I

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|---|---|
| Chairman: | Mrs. Anne Stoddart (United Kingdom) |
| Vice-Chairman -cum-Rapporteur: | Mr. Carlos Amorin (Uruguay) |

Sessional Committee II

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| Chairman: | H.E. Mr. Yahya Geghman (Yemen) |
| Vice-Chairman -cum-Rapporteur: | Mr. Vladimir Skliarov (Russian Federation) |

(For the second part of the forty-first session the officers of Sessional Committee II will also serve for the Special Sessional Committee).